

  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF ULVERSTON.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

Of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH,  
FOR THE YEAR 1940.

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KITCHIN & CO., PRINTERS, 7 MARKET STREET.  
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## RURAL DISTRICT OF ULVERSTON.

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TOWN HALL,  
ULVERSTON,

*July*, 1941.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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GENTLEMEN,

With the war still in progress, Medical Officers are requested to make their reports as brief as possible, only mentioning those matters which appear to need the special attention of the Authority.

### INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

I can say, with a feeling of perfect confidence, that your district has been kept under close supervision. This will have been observed from the reports presented by your Inspectors month by month, by which it will have been seen that a very satisfactory amount of remedial work has been carried out. In addition to their ordinary work your Inspectors have taken their turn of duty at the Central Slaughter-house, inspecting the carcasses after slaughter. This work makes a considerable demand upon their time, but it is important work and work which our Inspectors are well qualified to perform.

### WATER SUPPLY.

In dealing with a scattered Rural District, provided with many small gravitation schemes, it is not easy to make a report which will deal with such a variety of conditions as obtain in



your district, but it may be said, leaving the Cartmel and Low Furness Districts to be dealt with separately that except for the Hawkshead and Backbarrow supplies there was no serious shortage. The Hawkshead supply failed entirely and it was necessary to fill the tanks by pumping from Esthwaite. As a new tank, to hold 80,000 gallons has been completed, there should be little need for anxiety in the future. Backbarrow was able to fill up at night, and gave a supply which demanded care in use.

A tank, to store 80,000 gallons, has been added to the Sawrey scheme.

The supply from the Grange reservoirs failed entirely in May, and it was most fortunate that the foresight of the Rural Council had prepared them to pump the water from a spring in a field near the Church. This pumping continued from the 24th of May until the 20th of October, approximately five months.

The supply to the village of Allithwaite failed and resort had to be had to carting from the Beckside spring. As I write, a pump has been installed at this spring and should the necessity arise the village can be provided with an alternative supply.

The supply to Lindale-in-Cartmel never actually failed, but was restricted.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

With the exception of a small section, the Coniston sewerage scheme has now been completed.

CHAPPELS.—With a view to the disposal of the sewage of 13 houses at Chappels, in the Township of Kirkby Ireleth, 294 lineal yards of glazed earthenware pipes have been laid to a septic tank, but up to the present only three dwellings have been connected.

HIGHFIELD COTTAGES.—The scheme for the Sewerage and drainage of the four cottages known as Highfield, in the Township of Urswick, is still unfinished, in fact I might say it has not been commenced, and the question has engaged the attention of the Council for six years.

BACKBARROW, (Browedge) and URSWICK.—I need only mention the necessity for schemes for Backbarrow (Browedge), and Urswick, in order that they may have consideration when times become more normal.

### HOUSING.

We can dismiss the subject of housing by saying that work under this heading has been entirely in abeyance.

### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

It is estimated that there are 368 Cowkeepers in your district, and there is no doubt the Inspectors give as much attention as possible to inspection, but to visit each cowshed once a month, which would be ideal, would entail almost an impossible amount of work, sufficient for a whole-time official. Nevertheless, I am satisfied that the milk supply to your district is produced under fairly satisfactory conditions.

### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

As the whole of the meat supply to your district is produced at the Ulverston Slaughter-House, there has been no necessity for Slaughter-house Inspections, but, as previously mentioned, your inspectors take their weekly turn of duty at the Ulverston Slaughter-house.

### HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL.

In my report for the year 1939, I mentioned that on account of the ever-increasing cost which the removal of house refuse

entails, the Inspectors were instructed to present a report to the Council on the carrying out of the work by direct labour. This report was duly presented and considered by the Council and the recommendations of the Inspectors were adopted in principle, but it was thought that Members should have time for further consideration of the question, and it is probable that now nothing will be done until the war ends, and this means that as in the past the work will be done by contract.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 127,485.

Population (1931) enumerated 16,719.

Estimated (end of 1940) 18,000.

Number of inhabited houses, 4,945.

Rateable value, £72,932.

Amount produced by a penny rate, £279. 2s. 4d.

POPULATION.—I have been furnished with the following figures of the present estimate of the population of the Rural District, that is the persons registered at the food office : it is 19,732. In addition some 2,500 persons are living in hotels, and there are 500 emergency ration cards. If, therefore, we take the floating population as being approxiamtely 23,000 and the stable population, 18,000, and base our calculation on the latter estimate, we cannot be very far wrong.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.		Total.	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1000
Legitimate	..	210	109	101	
Illegitimate	..	3	1	2	
	TOTALS	213	110	103	11.8

The births for the previous year numbered 189 and the birth-rate then was 11.2 per 1,000.



## DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS.

	1st quarter		2nd quarter		3rd quarter		4th quarter		Total		Rate per 1000
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Broughton West	7	5	6	7	7	7	9	4	29	23	
Cartmel ..	5	9	10	8	6	8	11	4	32	29	
Dalton ..	9	9	11	6	6	7	6	4	32	26	
Ulverston ..	7	9	4	12	4	3	2	1	17	25	
Totals	28	32	31	33	23	25	28	13	110	103	11.2

As we are not able to give the population for the different districts under the altered conditions of the population, we have to be satisfied in making our estimate for the whole district.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

	1st quarter		2nd quarter		3rd quarter		4th quarter		Totals		Rate per 1000
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Broughton West	11	12	8	8	9	5	8	7	36	32	
Cartmel ..	9	14	7	16	7	6	7	11	30	47	
Dalton ..	10	4	7	12	3	3	10	6	30	25	
Ulverston ..	8	6	7	7	1	6	4	8	20	27	
Totals	38	36	29	43	20	20	29	32	116	131	13.15

## AGE PERIODS AT WHICH THE DEATHS OCCURRED:

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 year .. ..	5	6	11
Between 1 and 65 .. ..	45	25	70
65 and Upwards .. ..	66	100	166
Totals	116	131	247

INFANTILE DEATHS.—The Infantile death-rate is calculated by taking the number of deaths occurring in infants before reaching the end of their first year of life and dividing them by the births registered during the same period. For the

year 1940 there were 11 deaths at this age-period, equal to a rate per 1,000 of 45.1. In 1939 there were 12 infantile deaths, the death-rate being 63.4 per 1,000 births.

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE INFANTILE DEATHS.

	Cartmel.		Broughton West.		Dalton		Ulverston		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Congenital Defects..		1	..	..	3	1	..	..	3	2
Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
Premature Birth	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1
Enteritis ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	1	2	..	..	3	2	1	2	5	6
Rate per 1000 Births	46.8		0.0		86.2		7.1		45.1	

**TUBERCULAR DISEASES.**—The tables herewith give the number of cases of Tuberculosis of various organs, which have been notified during the year, and the deaths arising therefrom. The cases, as reported, are referred to the Tuberculosis Department of the County for treatment.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Cartmel ..	..	..	3	1	2	1	1	1
Broughton West	..	..	3	2	2		2	
Dalton ..	..	..	2		1	1		1
Ulverston..	..	..	4				1	
Totals	12	3	5	2	3	3	2	

## AGE PERIODS OF NOTIFIED CASES AND DEATHS.

Age—Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years.								
0—1 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—5 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5—10 .. ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
10—15 .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
15—20 .. ..	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	..
20—25 .. ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
25—35 .. ..	2	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
35—45 .. ..	5	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
45—55 .. ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
55—65 .. ..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	12	3	5	2	3	3	2	..
	15		7		6		2	

Calculating from the above figures, the death-rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been 0.33 per 1,000 ; from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 0.11 per 1,000, and from all forms 0.44 per 1,000. These figures show an improvement upon last year.

### CANCER. DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

			Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per 1000
Broughton West .. ..	..	..	6	9	15	
Cartmel .. ..	..	..	3	2	5	
Dalton .. ..	..	..	2	1	3	
Ulverston .. ..	..	..	1	2	3	
Totals			12	14	26	1.90

ORGANS AFFECTED AND AGE PERIODS AT WHICH  
THE DISEASE HAS OCCURRED.

	15-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65 up.		Total.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	4	3
Breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3
Intestine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	2	3	2
Lungs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Rectum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	2
Pelvis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Tongue	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Face	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Kidney	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Oesophagus..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
<hr/>														
TOTALS	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	8	10	12	14
<hr/>														

The death-rate from Cancer has been equal to 1.44 per 1,000 of the population. In 1939 it was 1.99 per 1,000. One is pleased to see some improvement as regards the deaths from this dread disease, and let us hope as time goes on and our research work bears fruit, that there will be a greater reduction in the number of cases recorded. But we must always bear in mind that we are dealing with a population of old and middle-aged people, who are particularly susceptible to Cancer, much more so than is the case in an industrial district composed mainly of young and middle-aged persons.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE CASES.

			Brough- ton West		Cartmel		Dalton		Ulvers- ton		Total	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever	..	..	1	4	2	3	..	1	1	2	4	10
Diphtheria	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	6
Erysipelas	..	..	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	3
Pneumonia	..	..	5	1	6	5	..	..	..	..	11	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Polio-Myelitis	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ophthalmia	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	3	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	7	7	8	3	1	1	3	7	19	18
Measles	..	..	107	91	30	56	23	32	7	7	167	186
Cerebro Sp. Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Totals			122	107	48	72	26	34	12	19	208	232



# AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65sup-wards	Cases Removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
Scarlet Fever ..	14	1	..	1	..	1	5	2	1	2	1	1	..	..	14	..
Diphtheria ..	6	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	6	..
Erysipelas ..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	17	1	..	2	..	..	1	2	1	2	2	1	..	5	..	..
Peurperal Pyrexia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Polio-Myelitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	37	2	4	8	4	3	13	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	353	11	10	20	18	25	145	61	28	28	2	5	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Sp.Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Totals	440	18	14	31	23	29	166	68	31	37	8	9	..	6	23	..

In my report for the year 1939, I mentioned that we had been singularly free from epidemic diseases, and I might say the same for the year under review.

SCALRET FEVER.—Only 14 cases have been notified, the same number as last year, and the disease has been of a very mild type.

DIPHThERIA.—As contrasted with 1939, the year has been even more satisfactory from the point of view of the incidence of Diphtheria, only six cases being notified, and if we can only rouse public opinion to the great value of immunisation as a protection against the disease, we shall stamp it out entirely. Immunisation is perfectly safe, painless, a mere prick, and it is quite free. It is clearly the duty of parents to have their children protected.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—In November, 1939, an Order was issued by the Ministry, making the notification of Measles and Whooping Cough compulsory. I take it, this was an emergency measure, but I fail to see what good purpose it can serve, seeing that no responsibility is imposed on parents to report cases.

The Laboratory work of the Authority is carried out at the Liverpool Corporation Laboratories.

All sera are supplied to Medical Practitioners free.

In concluding my report, I must express my gratitude to the Council and my colleagues for all the co-operation and support which I have received.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON.

L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Lond.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

10th July, 1941.





